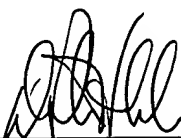


patent practice, to more precisely disclose the invention, and to delete multiple dependencies in the claims, thus reducing the government filing fee. No new matter has been added to the application by this amendment. Accordingly, prosecution on the merits hereof is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this paper, and any documents or thing identified as being attached or enclosed herewith, is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on the date noted below.

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